"BIG D:" FROM JFK to KKK (1980)

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¤ Alternative Views

55. "BIG D:" FROM JFK TO KKK (1980)
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    This combination documentary and discussion of the history, present activities, and significance of the Ku Klux Klan in the U.S. includes a show and tell with the Klan newsletter and extensive video coverage and analysis of an anti-Klan rally in Dallas. Texas ACLU director John Duncan discusses the group.

    ¤ ACLU
    http://www.aclu.org/

    This movie is part of the collection: Alternative Views

    Producer: Frank Morrow
    Production Company: Alternative Information Network
    Audio/Visual: sound, color
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while back you remember the demonstration in Dallas at great big demonstration 50 people brother the KKK well that was pretty well publicized in the mass media or in Dallas a little bit down here but the much larger anti KKK demonstration of the least 2000 people was hardly noticed in the conventional media generally not mentioned at all well we're going to reverse that equation tonight and show what really happened down there in Dallas on alternative views news magazine we're going to have some clippings some videotapes of the rallies against the Ku Klux Klan by different blacks and progressives in Dallas we'll also have some clips that Frank has assembled about the Ku Klux Klan and some of the right-wing publications that are promoting racism today well let's have some news usually we start out with oil well you've got some oil neither's do you not well what we have here Frank is some of the underdeveloped countries in the world developing their heavy are have you the tar oil fields we had an announcement in

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tar oil fields we had an announcement in the Austin Statesman not in The Wall Street Journal November 28th that Venezuela other State petroleum company plans to develop its Orinoco heavy tar fields I believe you didn't have a story about that on alternative you some time ago newspaper right establishment folks just now picking it up the the significance of it is that Venezuela claims that they can develop this oil for between 5 to 13 dollars a barrel the US Department of Energy says that if Venezuela which is one of the developing nations gets an economical and profitable program going it could lead to exploration of deposits in this country and by my estimates in Canada alone there's something like two trillion barrels of heavy heavy tar or tar oil in Canada of the amount of the United States I really don't know but I know that in Idaho alone they have about thirty billion barrels potential of this stuff how much do they say there that Venezuela has a potential of 500 billion barrels and I may hear some differences in opinions right and the Liberty Lobby story they said it was one to two trillion barrels another story from one of the developing nations Frank is that it is Brazil led by its German scientists I assume some of them of course refugees from or to calm Nazis let's go ahead running diesel engines on oil from soy beans peanuts castor seeds sunflowers and in the future they plan to grow force of energy they have at least 400 species of native trees that produce hydrocarbons directly from the sun's energy one of the one example is the copacabana tree which produces up to 26 gallons a year of an oil with the chemical composition that is very close to diesel the Brazilians claim it's a perfect substitute in diesel engines they can run this oil from this tree directly in the engine without any modifications at all performance is exactly the same Brazil has also been running cars on a mixture of 20% alcohol and eighty percent gasoline and by 1980 which will be next year they plan to produce a quarter of their automobile production

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quarter of their automobile production running stone on straight pure alcohol it's kind of a paradox we have again one of the lower ranked developing nations developing alternative synthetic fuel strength and coming right from trees coming from trees I think we reported an alternative use some time ago that there's a ward winning physicist at the University of California Berkeley who whose work in the cactus plants suggests that in United States and the Sonora Desert alone there are enough you could actually farm cactus there to make the country energy self-sufficient and the cactus plant produces pure hydrocarbons sort of a milky white fluid that comes directly from the plant without any conversion process I heard of the word decompression as too applied to people normally you think it's somebody in the water right who is down too deep and they have to put them in a decompression tank maybe that is the best analogy or description for what's going on for the people who were released hostages who were released by Khomeini and then they gave a news conference and they were making statements favorable to the Iranians favorable to the Iranian Revolution they were hurriedly taken to a military base in West Germany and the State Department said they were taken there for decompression which means I guess that they wanted to get them to cease their pro-iranian anti-war statements Carter also made a speech that they were brainwashed this came one day in the media but then it quickly disappeared as if anyone that was against the Shah it had their brains washed there was also remember these wild rumors that they were going to that some Iranian 's were going to kidnap the governor of Minnesota oh that was played you know and up in the news well it was later determined to be absolutely false and bogus but that fact was not placed on the news in fact speaking of the news

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on the news in fact speaking of the news the ratings for news has gone up fourteen percent as the Iranian crisis continues more people than ever before in history are watching The Evening News this shows that people are interested in international affairs and are interested in watching television news and getting information about international political events it's curious that Iran in fact is totally dominated the news there's been thirty minutes often of nothing but Iranian news at night so it's curious that previously international news was reduced to almost nothing and Americans hardly knew anything about Iran and now that we have this great drama going on it has taken over the news speaking of prisoners of sorts we'll have a change of venue here the IRS had just found out that prisoners u.s. prisoners are in the United States have been making up fake w-2 forms sending them in to the IRS and getting refunds so I'm not suggesting

everybody do that but I was thinking that the prisoners who are they make about five dollars a month at the most they're just supplementing their income with a little moonlighting what do you have speaking of income predicative income right this is from a news letter from congressman Marvin Lee whose district is 11 the congressional district and of course his big beef here is that poor people are getting all the money in the rich people are getting none oh well overlook his ravenous for the time being but he has some interesting figures on what has been happening to federal income as most of you who watch this program know that's one of my pet peeves that I keep people attuned to how much you are not making and how much less that you're making because of inflation speaking of inflation you know Frank one of my favorite reports is the Charmin Report Charmin toilet paper yeah and I noticed it in the Austin Statesman the local newspaper here in town they actually did the Charmin test here about a week or so ago and they found out much to their dismay that the new fluffier

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to their dismay that the new fluffier Charmin contains four hundred sheets where the old Charmin contained five hundred sheets so you're actually getting less wipe per buck but from 1972 to 1979 medium family income climb from eleven thousand one hundred fifty two dollars to eighteen thousand four hundred sixty seven dollars so most of us are fairly happy because of that but in that same period of time federal income taxes increased eighty two percent while Social Security taxes increased one hundred and forty two percent so in in real terms with inflation accounted for your actual purchasing power in that period of time has dropped something like seven hundred dollars now of course that does not include the bite in in state and local taxes such as gasoline taxes alcohol taxes and property taxes to put it more succinctly in 1969 the median family of four income was nine thousand two hundred and seventy seven dollars before taxes after taxes it was seven thousand nine hundred and forty seven dollars and ten years later in nineteen seventy nine the medium family for income is eighteen thousand four hundred sixty-seven dollars after taxes fifteen thousand five hundred and forty six dollars but if you compare after-tax income of 1969 with after-tax income adjusted for inflation of 1979 we've actually lost in 1969 after-tax income was seven thousand nine hundred and forty seven dollars these after-tax adjusted for inflation income of nineteen seventy nine ten years later is seven thousand eight hundred dollars you've lost one hundred and forty seven dollars in purchasing power in ten years and again this does not include state and local taxes which by my estimates have increased on a nationwide average of somewhere between twenty five to thirty percent in just a seventy two seventy nine it's also probably not adjusted for thee there's a devaluation of the dollar compared to other currencies abroad which also cut into our purchasing power well the devaluation of dollar is is figured out in terms of inflation because of course the devaluation of dollar pushes up the price of imported goods which you know make up such a

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goods which you know make up such a large portion of our consumer goods now anyway this is a conscious effort which has been on the minds of business and the power structure for years remember that almost a year ago we read the article from the famous edition of Business Week what was 1975 I think where it said that Americans are going to have to get used to having a lowered standard of living we also measure of scarcity right the book ethics and profits which was about and the way the quotes the businessmen saying that we're going to have to bite the bullet and just recently Paul Volcker who's the head of the Federal Reserve banking system told congressional committee the standard of living of the average American has to decline well actually it has declined as we all know instead of the top standard of living in the world and I think we're down to about 12 to 14 through even below Canada and Japan now the all this is dawning on the American people that the prosperity in the 50s and 60 was really gone and it was almost an illusion really Mother Jones says the prosperity was never the creation of business acumen it was a consequence of women flooding the market at low wages so there would be two incomes in the family pension funds pumping hundreds of billions of dollars into investments because there was no place else to put those savings and the vast overseas markets filled with cheap labor and the booming demand but that is gone now and most people well I don't know I haven't seen any poles to know whether people realize that the time is

gone and we're back and we're going to all be biting the bullet even the upper-middle class won't be able to travel abroad all the time and have all the nice goodies that they are used to having and as mother jones says we've all ended up locked in as a serf who was sold with the land well Frank in terms

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sold with the land well Frank in terms of biting the bullet I think it's safe to say anybody making below $50,000 will be biting the bullet this country is run by people who make over $50,000 and for those of you who have forgotten we're talking about two hundred and five thousand individuals in this country who make more than $50,000 a year yet they own about mmm about about thirty percent of all real wealth in the United States they own over 50% of the common stock and close to 90 percent of all all government bonds and these are the people who standards living haven't been affected by this but anybody below that of course has here in Austin people below making less than about thirty or forty thousand dollars a year can team afford to buy a house anymore in addition to all this their representatives in Congress who are paid for by the corporations are still at work for instance the chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee introduced a bill that would change depreciation rules for industry on property and equipment which would in effect cut corporate taxes by thirty five billion and he also introduced another bill that would cut federal corporate and personal income taxes and Social Security by a hundred thirty-five 130 billion and replaced them with a value-added tax which means that they produced a 10% tax and practically everything consumers buy at the federal level which is passed on every time that the goods change hands there was no real bonanza in the oil industry wouldn't it oh so this would reduce business taxes by at least fifty four billion in addition to that this is what's so depressing about the 1980 election that's coming up on us every single one of the candidate is coming out for lowering corporate taxes and giving more breaks to business including Teddy Kennedy as we discussed a couple of weeks ago so no one has really addressed the issue of the concentration of wealth and power in a matter in any way to redistribute this and to help the common people in this era of increased scarcity and depression so it doesn't look like we have any political solutions that are being offered by the

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solutions that are being offered by the system that are on the horizon instead we have the KKK the KKK and well hey let's talk about you we had that tremendous documentary Black's Britannica here on alternative views a few weeks ago right a couple of weeks ago we played the first time on television the uncensored version of blacks Britannica well jump-cut a radical film journal yesterday just sent me a copy that had the two lead articles on blacks Britannica that told what was left out and why it was censored it was shown in a truncated version by PBS and according to David called the head of the station in Boston that had requisitioned that said that he had to cut certain parts of it out because of the domination of the film by a small group of people who shared the same ideology Koch asks what ideology is that and they the station manager answer is clear from the moment that the word Marx and Engels is are mentioned what the ideology is so the very fact that a few of the blacks interviewed about the situation of racism in Britain mentioned the words marks and angles was too much for PBS you can even mention these taboo words so those selections were cut out they also cut out images of police in Britain shooting at a black target that was too inflammatory that cops would actually want to take target practice at Black's and they also rearranged the order of some of the sequences so it would look like that the black violence had caused police repression and brutality rather the conditions of life the poverty the police harassment and brutality had evoked a violent response on the part of the blacks so this is a model of censorship this is PBS and action

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censorship this is PBS and action taking out all the radical elements of this documentary and sort of sanitizing it to fit their ideology well I received from my Jankowski a former UT librarian and now information finder sent me a copy of a publication a British publication in which he showed that they wouldn't even show it in England right and not only that but WGBH the PBS affiliate in Boston that was responsible for all of the censorship and for the production of it or at least licensing the production of it they have even they're trying to

stamp out the original version they're trying to keep the producer from showing it anywhere not only in the United States but in the world they're showing you film festivals they want them to keep them from showing that they claim that they own it and that filmmaker can't show it in fact a Conservative MP a member of parliament in Britain complained to the American ambassador that blacks brittonic that was too dangerous and asked him to try to prevent its showing in the United States so you have possible complicity of government both in Britain and America and censor in the show and yet time I think was New York Times wrote an editorial which was favorable to blacks Botanica John O'Connor who is a liberal TV critic in his column it wasn't the newspaper they say well it's time for the quote for the day and we were talking about the KKK there was one of the local newspapers talks about the police chief of Stanley North Carolina he said we had no unpleasant experiences with a Klan and its members generally speaking people in our community don't regard the Klan as a violent organization well as most of you might

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organization well as most of you might be aware of we do have a few racial problems here in the United States matter of fact the clan the triple K seems to be making quite a comeback you see it in the television you've seen many of the newspapers a lot of the things never make television that you read about in some of the alternative press for instance was there anything about this on TV talking about more than six hundred people protested the Tidewater visit in the Norfolk area of Ku Klux Klan Imperial wizard bill Wilkinson on October in early October he'd been boasting about his recruiting success there in the Navy in and around Norfolk but only about fifty diehard triple cares were there but this is something that was happening all the time another story talks about this one then the Guardian magazine newspaper talks about two Foreman at the Ford plant in Durban coming to work wearing a little hat with KKK across it and the workers protested stopped the assembly line and eventually got those two foremen fired or at least transferred we've been reading about the Ku Klux Klan making advances and the military and creating problems aboard ship they're even going into schools high schools even distributing literature and recruiting there and the prisons are quite active and there was another story in militant manga a newspaper indicating that they were even harassing and Vietnamese down south well the FBI estimates that there are no more than 8,000 Klan members nationwide however a head of one of the they're about four different distinct all fragmentations that you might want to call it of the KKK one of which the Knights of the

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KKK one of which the Knights of the triple K received eleven thousand votes for a state senator state Senate race in Louisiana last year another is called invisible Empire run by bill Wilkerson we mention name go but during the 1920s the clam could claim three to five million members or 25 to 30 percent of the entire Protestant population in the country at the time but then in the early 60s it had really dropped down where of just a very fragmented remnant of its former self but the Klan of the 20s was the largest mass political organization in the history of the United States with the exceptions of Democratic and Republican parties of course but it represented a vast network of work of organizations with enough political clout to elect senator several members of Congress even and although the Klan was strong in many southern states has also had a great deal of mass following and other or in other states outside the south Pennsylvania Indiana Oregon and far from just being a dyed black the Klan had broad right-wing program all across the board including a bent toward fundamentalist religion and I capitalism moralism and very much against labor in the labor movement well after a brief post-war boom in 1919 this was one of the agricultural depression hit the United States and a lot of the conditions which led to the boom of the KKK then after World War one are in evidence today rising unemployment people coming in from other countries to compete for jobs in the United States the way they are now coming in the illegally from Mexico and so the clams

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illegally from Mexico and so the clams seized upon and exploited the fears of the population and catapulted itself into political power and looks like it's coming back and do that today up in Dallas remember just a few days back there was a Klan rally followed by an anti Klan demonstration of the greater magnitude we thought you might like to take a look at just what the clan has to say itself or at least one of the segments of it they put out a newspaper called the Thunderbolt the Thunderbolt well just say read it and you'll see what it's like we have some a little bit of headlines and all from the Thunderbolt and you can see what they have in mind racism of course is right up at the top mainly anti black also against any type of races the races of other other other colors other origins Browns black and particularly against any type of immigration of these people in the United States another foundation of the Thunderbolt and the KKK in general is anti-semitism they've just livid when they see any person who is in the government who is Jewish and they can contribute a lot of our problems to the Jews as a matter of fact one of the triumphant headlines which they finally came out with after apparently years of research was that we knew it all along we suspected all along but now we can prove it Rockefellers are Jews they believe that in Mexico also and I was down there they were telling me that the Rockefellers and Muhammad Ali were Jewish I asked him about Muhammad Ali and they said well it's last name Ali and I pointed out that not all bankers were Jewish and

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that not all bankers were Jewish and certainly very few blacks were in fact Muhammad Ali was a [__] Ali how do they come up with a Jewish name I found it is women racing he's not based on rationality yeah well you would think that they also had a big thing about anti-communism and red-baiting but I guess that isn't quite as in fashion as it was back in the 50s because but they still on one issue we found that they did have this business of Hollywood being read infiltrated even recently that was those people that were attacked and killed by the Klan in North Carolina claim to be communists so that there was definite anti-communism in that but the Klansmen are not just laughable fools they maim and they murder the Thunderbolt encourages this hostility against other races particularly blacks as is shown in this comic strip where a poor white man sees a black man and white woman coming out of a disco and decides to take violent action against them saying that he won't sleep tonight if he doesn't he wants to prevent racial mixing so he does indeed take direct action beating up the black man and saying that he's going to get the woman after he finishes off the black man calling her a gray dog then he returns to his home or room which is a rundown place indicating that it may not have furthered the revolution but it's not despite the soul John Duncan is head of the Texas Civil Liberties Union you and your fellow civil libertarians around the country and the ACLU must be very concerned about the activities of

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very concerned about the activities of the Ku Klux Klan well we're afraid we may be asked to represent them we're first of all this presents some problems within the liberal community a free speech organization a defender of the First Amendment we have represented the right of the Ku Klux Klan in the past to assemble to speak and we do that for any group regardless of their political affiliation we would be quite concerned if the Klan were running a police department and the policies of a police department were in effect Klan policies because at that point you move from speech to action and there you've got potential for a violation of the civil rights a lot of people I know are very critical of this position are they not particularly when it seems so easy and it happens frequently when the Klan is exercising their First Amendment rights of assembly and free speech to either whip out the sticks and start clubbing people or whip out the rifles and start shooting people we've got laws to deal with that's type of activity and we certainly have not opposed prosecuting anyone for violating another person's civil rights what we're all we have done in the past and what we will continue to do in the future is say that as long as you're dealing with ideas and assembly speech and things of that variety we will defend the right to as guaranteed in the First Amendment peaceably assemble and to speak what about the clan and what they're doing now is it seemed to be different from historically what they've been up to or is it just kind of a resurrection of the same old thing I don't think there's anything new from what we saw in the 1920s and the emergence of the clan at that time as a political force in some areas it is of some concern what is going on down there at sea drift at the

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going on down there at sea drift at the moment which is why that is the case of the Vietnamese immigrants who were harassed they were not accepted by the community they were threatened they had their civil rights violated and finally in a confrontation between some of the domestics in Seabrook and the Vietnamese a US citizen or a native there was killed a jury over in Seguin found just that it was self-defense what has happened now is the Klan is gone in the air and he's trying to stir up anti Vietnamese sentiment raising cane over a piece of evidence that was suppressed by a court in Seguin and by the judge they're attempting to obtain that evidence and in effect cast some doubt as to whether or not a murder occurred of whether or not it was self-defense this is somewhat parallel then to article I read about the Klan also taking on the Vietnamese in Alabama it looks like they're spreading out it's not just the blacks and the Catholics and the Jews and the Communists it's also the aliens anybody they've been active long the Texas border at least in terms of late lifting also along the California border in terms of anti-hispanic propaganda what about the problem of the KKK and the police you read in a lot of articles and hear people talk about the affinity close affinity at which the Klan has with the police and some people say and apparently it's been documented in some places that a lot of members police departments around the country are actually Klan members so it's not too surprising that the police frequently treat the Klan either with very velvet gloves or don't molest them

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very velvet gloves or don't molest them at all you hear stories to that effect I will say again we've been something is not real popular within the liberal community and that is taking the position that a person should not be dismissed from the police department solely because of membership in the Klan that if if you show that they are using their position as a police person to advance the causes of the Klan at that point you have grounds for dismissal but mere membership in the Klan is no different from mere membership in the Communist Party or any other group and we have from left to right taking the position that people should not be discriminated against on the basis of mere political affiliation our political belief what happens in a case like like in Greensboro North Carolina where five people were killed by the Klan in which it came out that the police actually notified the Klan of the activities or a member of the Klan of the itinerary of the marchers and also they stayed a healthy distance about two blocks away from the demonstration kept it under observation but did nothing to although they realize that the Klan people were coming into town they did nothing to monitor their activities or to prevent their shooting this is certainly a danger when there is a close relationship or membership of the Klan and the police is there not a danger and if all of that is accurate it would fall within the conspiracy to violate civil rights statute a federal statute that which the police officer could be prosecuted just as those who committed the murders could be prosecuted what is the situation with the clan now why is it spreading so rapidly over the United States and why is it so active at

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United States and why is it so active at the present time and who are they against what is this clan phenomena like at the present time where is it going we have four people with us now who will discuss this for intrepid souls who were up in Dallas and that November third demonstration and anti demonstration by the KKK up there a daily man seus Velma Roberts Casey real and our own deborah hill from AC TV never also lived in England for six years so she knows what the Klan's counterparts are like over there in England well tell me first what was it like in Dallas the media only covered it very superficially what was the feeling like up there I got there I saw only a small group of persons dressed in white with traditional robe and they were outlined by claims people in monk military uniforms out skirting them and there were only about fifty altogether and I followed them through the streets of Dallas and around this fifty group of clans people there came hordes of anti plan people expressing antique land demonstrations so I think that there were at least two thousand people who were marching around the Klan expressing antique land settlements and there was another two thousand people waiting to do an antique land march about so I was really encouraged to find that the whole feeling was was antique land he the auntie Kate was just diminished by by all the

sentiments of people just coming from the streets and everywhere it's showing that they didn't want them on the streets of Dallas and the only reason that they could possibly continue that march was that there was a line of blue policemen that was between the people who were white and the people who

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people who were white and the people who are in green military uniforms and the crowd so you could tell the police from the Klan well they've night uniforms to green uniforms to blue uniforms to the people Velma it's a isn't it a rather startling thing that's happening recently and that the Klan is being fought overtly every step of the way all around the country because the plan is seem to be popping up in all parts of the country but it seems like every time they do somebody is mainly the blacks it seems they're putting the finger on and I think that that should happen that's one of the reasons why I went up to Dallas because you know historically the Klan have always targeted the blacks and the Jews to take out whatever revenge I don't know why would be revenge but whatever the hatred hatred against blacks and so I think that that blacks should fight back I know I personally I'm not going to go back where the people were in the thirties and the forties and the fifties happened to have them to deal with the Klan or be afraid of the Klan and not like that Adelia as the Klan has had a historic antipathy or have operations against Chicanos and Mexicans in the past you know because I think the Klan mentality is is a sort of mentality that's against you know the white supremist type of person and that of course does not include you know Chicano so mexican-americans and so you know they're against Isis they're against the black so they're against the Jews they're against anybody that isn't you know that doesn't fit their their own category historically you'd normally

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category historically you'd normally hear about the Klan in relationship to the blacks but historically done in this part of the country has the Klan been active against the Mexican Americans you know no not that I know the time it I know for sure that they were actively against Mexican Americans about three years ago when they were patrolling the border trying to keep more immigrants from coming in more Mexicans from coming into the United States and they were patrolling the border at that time some groups from Austin went and again did an anti patrol type thing and you know no instance occurred but they were out there so you know they're doing the same Casey what is the Klan attitude toward women I think that they use women as puppets like in in this Dallas demonstration it was supposedly called by a grandmotherly type woman there was a lot of you mean a woman who's head of the KKK in Dallas well should they they were calling in the press they were calling her the grand clincal I think or that or just Cleo Opera House clean girl of the round for for her particular class and there are a number of different clans it's not just one clan it's a number of smaller groups sometimes just maybe 30 or 40 and sometimes big ones that have consulted but she's supposedly she called the March when she was caught in the paper I just really felt that she was being used she

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really felt that she was being used she didn't understand what no that she really didn't she had a lot of hatred and a lot of racial hatred but it wasn't it seemed like it had been directed from elsewhere and that she was a convenient person to be that media figure for it all because it fits into the whole american-dream pie whatever you've done work in England with KKK type of situation and the one on the end they were united front we know it's called National Front right and you actually did some work and extensive experience with women actually in that organization right first I want to say that the National Front is a fascist organization as is the Ku Klux Klan fascist organization and the similarities are striking that they both use minority groups to escape goat ills that they that they feel have been addressed particularly towards them and they feel that they have a call for nationalism with no analysis of the economic situation within that nation and that the National Front organizes much the same way the KKK they they they have costumes on the usually or dressed in black macaque with Van Aken and a bunch of their strategy is the same their use of women again

if a Casey was saying they use women and they don't have any real interest in women's issues but for example women always put at the front of national front oranges we don't really have it in power they have no power but they're just used so that the

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power but they're just used so that the anti National Front group would throw rocks hopefully you know there were any consideration you put them right at the front large hard about the way they felt about and what was their experience that led them to be no rational problem well the women that I worked with were in another situation they were very insular anyway I mean they were camping pretty much in their duty was to stay in the house and take care of the children and of course have a meal read ready where the blood came home from work and there the when they got active in the clan was that either they are more than likely in most cases their daughter had been beaten up and raped now it just happened to be that the men who beat and raped them were black men so they were really angry about that they were really angry about their declining standard of living and the only analysis of the situation they got was this pamphlet that came through their letterbox from the National Front so what we tried to do with the women anyway is when the blokes went off to the pub was to ask if we could come in and interview them so we brought in small portable camera equipment and we interviewed them just about their lives you know and they talked about their children getting beaten up and they talked about their husbands losing their jobs and they talked about these sort of issues so that we took the cameras then to other areas of town again only two women whether there have been similar social problems but a different analysis so that when we came back in we'd asked them if they wanted to see their tape of course they did we say oh and by the way we asked another group of women questions similar to this would you would you

00:42:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xJjRp598X4w&t=2520s)

would you see how they didn't and the hope about it was is that but actually we felt that their problems were real I mean we really don't feel that these people started out as a group of maniacs which often the press builds them up to be but often it started out with people with real concerns you know but who had been fed a really dangerous analysis of this and who had not had access to the kind of analysis that you might have if you've been privileged enough to go to a university or engage in the dialogue such as this one thing that really excited me a lot about watching the video footage you took up in Dallas Deborah was that the anti-klan demonstration was composed of a lot of people all kinds of colors do you think that perhaps the KKK challenge will bring about a coalition of people who are of various various colors so we'll finally unites the minorities all Monika's it's also lesbians and homosexuals as well as blacks and condos and dreams anyone who is not of a white male supremist caste is their enemy Protestant their games Catholics historically also yes there was a big Catholic contingent orange in it well do you see this nationwide from the reports of the press or from the word you've been getting that they a coalition of various people are gathering on this that whole issue is going to cause or it's causing the coalition's to form around the country and almost every anti demonstration there is a group of mixed group of people it's a coalition of

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group of people it's a coalition of people that are fighting against the poignant well it seems like looking at the two demonstrations that were happening at the same time that same weekend the one in Greenville hospital on and the one in Dallas the one in Dallas with was popularly organized there were neighborhood groups and just just all different kinds of people all mixed in and all it was huge twenty five hundred people the in Greensboro it was organized by one group that came from outside of the community and violence occurred because it was it well it wasn't indigenous to the community no it wasn't indigenous in there were not then well there were not the varieties of people in the broad-based support and to really make a strong stand against the Klan it's it seems like it's going to have to be coalition why is it there's a resurrection of the Klan now is it economic that maybe barely coupled with the Civil Rights Act some of the some of the statements that I've heard Klansmen make or people with with Klan mentality is that each time you give a black or

minority another right then you take away a white right okay so that has a lot to do with it to the jobs of course a tight an economy and then this country's ideas have shifted more to the right now ever since the the Nixon administration has been very instrumental and manipulating the citizens of this country and to thinking more conservatively and that has a lot to do

00:46:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xJjRp598X4w&t=2761s)

conservatively and that has a lot to do with it yeah and that's reflected also in minorities you know a lot of minorities when I say minorities I want to Black's Browns are women you know also have shifted to the right and they're more comfortable more settled in you know in the position to throw in and they're not going to make as many whites they used to or at least this is the way it's being perceived and you know it's taking this to get people to get up and to form coalition's and to come out and protest and March and you know see that I don't think that was anticipated by the clients people I'm sure that the anti-klan March in Dallas was not anticipated by the clients people and I think that's another reason why you know it's it's starting to sort of take a strong foothold it's because you know the the whole you know just mood seemed to be seem to be where they wouldn't get any any friction that that that's part of when people say well if you just ignore the Klan it's better because they'll just go away that's part of the the complacency that people feel that will especially white people I think maybe they feel like they can ignore it whereas black and brown people are confronted with it more directly and so can't cannot I haven't been able to and why people are just now perhaps being affected by economic conditions that could make people swinging away and swing towards the swinging towards the Klan it's a matter of misinformation things like not enough resource but still I mean there's a white privilege class certainly it has a lot of benefits

00:48:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xJjRp598X4w&t=2880s)

class certainly it has a lot of benefits from the Klan itself I mean the Klan acts as a sort of a mafia for them to the threatened minority groups and hopefully it keeps them in place by terrorist activities so that they continue in enjoying certain privileges which they may not have earned by the square of em around was there another aspect of it too that the Klan acts as kind of a lightning rod to a deflector in in a sense one of the chants up in Dallas that the the Klan is our enemy well if the Klan can be focused on everybody say ok we hate the Klan people are forgetting about the whole system within which the Klan everybody else operates the the racist system and the economic benefits that will go to the to the ruling class in the economic system so that it stays the way it is keep the people they down under keep the underlings fighting among each other and they won't stop and take a look at the system as a whole and how it fits into it it seems to me now people people that the media treats the Klan often as clowns kind of their kind of foolish or they're kind of silly in their costumes and sort of making them harmless away these people are just crazy fridge elements how was the how was the situation in Dallas treated on the mass media did any of you watch TV up there I watched the television program and more coverage was given to the Klan marched into the anti-klan March which was much much larger and very little was said about the anti-crime March you know and all the emphasis went to the to the Klan you know and very little to what

00:50:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xJjRp598X4w&t=3000s)

Klan you know and very little to what was going you know to oppose it I saw the newspaper coverage here in Austin the next day I didn't stay in Dallas very long after the rally as a matter of fact I stayed there about 30 minutes after there I didn't want to be calling highway after dog with Cooper clan standing waiting on us you know so I was back in Austin by the time we start but I read the paper the next day and very little coverage was given to via countermarch a lot of coverage front page picture on the front page pictures of what's the woman's name the grand 73 year-old woman that supposed to organize that demonstration they had pictures and color on about that and very little coverage on the on the counter March and for some reason uh numbers had shrunk by the time the Dallas radio reported fifty clans people marching and nothing whatsoever about a counter-demonstration and the student newspaper the Texan here gave more coverage to a 2,500 people running in a foot race here in Austin and they did to the people who were marching against

the Klan in Dallas did anybody watch the local coverage of the Austin TV stations of the what happened up in Dallas area photograph from looking at various sources it seems it looks to me like in situations like this they frequently will say okay here are the clans are crazy bunch of you know idiots and then the people there against repeat were the people who are demonstrating against the clients are also a violent bunch of people too so we got crazies on one side and crazies on the other side and in between protecting

00:52:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xJjRp598X4w&t=3122s)

the other side and in between protecting us all is the law are the police and the judges isn't that nice you know so they have this binary system where each is one each is equally bad right they never go into an analysis of what the situation really is or what the people I think you mentioned ever about getting inside the the groups and what the people are really like and what the how they really feel about the situation and what their concerns really are because I think that the people there are concerns and they're called both sides and then those concerns on the rest it's just the effective at the point that you see and not the concerns that land people there are the thinking allowed people you're talking about where how the police sort of the police and the judges stand in the middle protecting all the silent masses who are basically good the police and in the case of the Dallas March were that they had nothing to do is a counter-demonstration except you'd see isolated ones sort of standing around watching are they taking pictures of DPS taking pictures for the well not not in uniform but the Klan March on the other hand had to be completely flanked by police they couldn't have had it without police there and the the clans people were protected by the police and when they were threatened too much they were led into a city building and then bust out by a city bus so they were being protected by the state by the the local government and the feeling I got when we were passed a police for the launch or that they were ready they were all in a riot gear and it watch dicks tonight sticks already to me it looked

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tonight sticks already to me it looked like they were ready to attack us and we were just you know doing a peaceful morons and they weren't there to protect us I didn't feel protected by them as a matter of fact I feel threatened by their presence we always do incidentally there were a lot of no pictures there was a lot of picture taking by policemen because we recognized some of the same faces that other March of another city so you know there were definitely we already know and you know we saw them doing the same thing they do it every mark and that's to take pictures what about here in Austin that is their clan here in Austin's they're a chapter or anybody seen any yeah yeah I think it's a chapter here is that I think it's members of some members of the Police Association I think that may be a champion what it that's not unusual though is that from what I've read that the police in much of the country sympathized with the KKK and are actually many of them are members in the organization Houston there were there were some police when I guess some of them still up on the force that were members of the plan I don't know if these guys are really members of the Klan they don't like white sheets with their uniforms but they have the same clan mentality and it wouldn't surprise me if they if they're John Burgess you know opposed to been calling themselves clans but the main character is that so I'd have to say yes the clan is he I must say in all fairness to the John Birch Society that the clan newspaper the Thunderbolt thinks that the Birchers are horrible leftists John Birch Society is way to the left of the Klan but it's still way to the rydym party any by any good like that we a person well do you think

00:56:04 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xJjRp598X4w&t=3364s)

like that we a person well do you think in the final analysis it's actually a hopeful thing that maybe the Klan carrying out these activities can cause a positive positive and strong reaction that'll will unite minorities and perhaps bring the majority along with it I don't know that the majority I think that the you know it's good it's good to have a coalition of all people all kinds of people all races of people involved it's just real sad that that's why we had to get a coalition is because you know the racism in this country by really crazies you know the Klan I think that's really saying in many instances people according to doubt people have died people are going to die at the hands of the Klan to get people you know together well let's hope that this is

just the start of a coalition that will show the Klan for what it is and hopefully there's any way of getting the mass media at least maybe we've done our little bit to show that it's not just some isolated small aspect of American society but an integrated part of the overall system racism and the economic system and the political system maybe we've made one little bit of progress tonight for the few people who do watch alternative views news magazine thank you for being with us it's great

[00:58:11 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xJjRp598X4w&t=3491s)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xJjRp598X4w&t=3491s)

you

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